tents prefixed to it. Here therefore must we again confess ourselves surprised, who, when we wrote those contents, did not suspect in the least, but that we should have satisfied them all withia a lesser compass. And our design then was, besides answering the objection against the nativ-rality of the idea of God, from the Pagan Polytheism (we having then so fit an occasion), to give such a further account of the idolatry and religion of the Gentiles, as might prepare our way for g, defence of Christianity, to-be subjoined in the close ; it being not only agreeable to the sense of ancient doctors, but also expressly declared in the Scripture, that one design of Christianity was to abolish and extirpate the Pagan Polytheism and idolatry. And our reasons for this intended defence of Christianity were, first, because we had observed, that some professed opposers of Atheism had either incurred a suspicion, or at least suffered under the imputation of being mere Theists, or natural religionists only, and no hearty believers of Christianity, or friends to revealed religion. From which either suspicion or imputation therefore we thought it justice to free ourselves, we having so unshaken a belief and firm assurance of the truth of the w hole Christian doctrine. But, secondly, and principally, because we had further observed it to have been the method of our modern Atheists, to make their first assault against Christianity, as thinking that to be the most vulnerable: and that it would be an easy step for them, from thence, to demolish all religion and Theism, However, since the satisfying » the former part of those contents had already taken up so much room, that the pursuit of the